

**REQUEST**  
 for **PATENT & TRADEMARKS**  
**CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)**  
**TRANSMITTAL**

*Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000,  
 provided for continued examination of a utility or plant application  
 filed on or after June 8, 1995.*

*See the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).*

**MAY 03 2007**

Application Number	10/630,681
Filing Date	July 31, 2003
First Named Inventor	Tetsuya MATSUTANI
Group Art Unit	Group Art Unit 2812
Examiner Name	Examiner Andre C. Stevenson
Attorney Docket Number	2003_1039A
Confirmation No.	7670

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

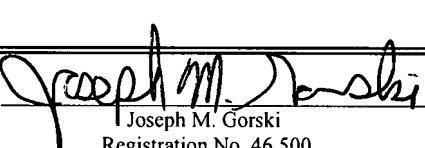
**NOTE:** 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114
  - a.  Previously submitted:
    - i.  Please enter and consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on
    - ii.  Please consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on
    - iii.  Other\_
  - b.  Enclosed:
    - i.  Amendment/Reply
    - ii.  Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
    - iii.  Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
    - iv.  Other\_
2. Miscellaneous
  - a.  Suspension of action on the above-identified application is required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of months. (period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required).
    - b.  Other\_
3. Fees (The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.)
  - a.  The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. .
    - i.  RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)
    - ii.  Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. § 1.136 and § 1.17)
    - iii.  Other\_
  - b.  Check in the amount of \$790.00 enclosed

4. CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS

CUSTOMER NO.

**52349**

By:   
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May 3, 2007

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

: Confirmation No. 7670

Tetsuya MATSUTANI

: Attorney Docket No. 2003\_1039A

Serial No. 10/630,681

: Group Art Unit 2812

Filed July 31, 2003

: Examiner Andre C. Stevenson

CONTACT HOLE FORMATION METHOD

: Mail Stop RCE

**PATENT OFFICE FEE TRANSMITTAL FORM**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Attached hereto is a check in the amount of \$790.00 to cover Patent Office fees relating to filing the following attached papers:

Request for Continued Examination (RCE) ..... \$790.00

A duplicate copy of this paper is being submitted for use in the Accounting Division, Office of Finance.

*The Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiency or to credit any overpayment associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 23-0975, with the EXCEPTION of deficiencies in fees for multiple dependent claims in new applications.*

Respectfully submitted,

Tetsuya MATSUTANI

By

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[Check No. 80203]  
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